

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 00710 131347Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----131358Z 029795 /53

R 131230Z JAN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 564  
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 0710

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ENRG, EG, US  
SUBJ: AMOCO'S EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES IN THE GULF OF SUEZ

1. ROSS CRAIG, AMOCO EGYPT MANAGER (WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM CONSULTATIONS IN US) HAS INFORMED US THAT DRILLING VESSEL MARINER, WHICH IS SAME VESSEL AMOCO TRIED TO MOVE TO CONTROVERSIAL SITE 304-1 IN AUG 76, IS NOW DRILLING OFF-SHORE IN GULF OF SUEZ IN BLOCK 195 JUST WEST OF ABU RUDEIS. ACCORDING TO AMOCO, EGPC AGREED IN LATE DEC TO MOVE MARINER TO BLOCK 195, THUS POSTPONING PROBLEM OF DECISION ON RETURN TO SITE 304-1 AT LEAST FOR DURATION OF DRILLING AT NEW SITE.

2. DEPT WILL NOTE THAT BLOCK 93 IS IN EASTERN HALF GULF OF SUEZ BUT WELL NORTH OF CURRENTLY DISPUTED ZONE. IT IS FIRST WELL TO BE DRILLED IN OFFSHORE AREAS MADE AVAILABLE BY ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI COAST AS PART OF SINAI ICI  
DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT. AMOCO VERY HOPEFUL OF FINDING OIL IN THIS AREA AS AVAILABLE STRUCTURES APPEAR BE EXTREMELY FAVORABLE. QUESTION OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE FIELD IF OIL IS FOUND HAS NOT YET BEEN SETTLED. MOST LOGICAL COURSE WOULD BE TO TIE IN TO ABU RUDEIS/BELAYIM COMPLEX.

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3. CRAIG CONFIRMED RUMORS THAT WELL DRILLED IN BLOCK 391 (WHICH AMOCO HOPED WOULD BE PART OF SAME STRUCTURE AS THAT DISCOVERED IN BLOCK 382) NOW APPEARS DRY. NEW DRILLING SITE BEING SELECTED IN BLOCK 391 AND WORK WILL BEGIN SHORTLY.

4. COMMENT: MOVE OF MARINER TO BLOCK 195 IS FURTHER INDICATION THAT GOE INTENDS CONTINUE CONSCIOUSLY PURSUE POLICY KEEPING SITUATION IN SOUTHERN GULF OF SUEZ FROM HEATING UP.  
MATTHEWS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GULF OF SUEZ, EXPLORATORY DRILLING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 13-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977CAIRO00710  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, EG, US, AMOCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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